The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

WHOLE NO. 1036. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1931 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 20, NO. 49.

Silence is less injurious than a weak reply.—Colton.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS NATION'S FIRST PROBLEM

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States will consider methods to stabilize employment.

The chairman of the board of the national chamber says the plan will be studied by representatives of "key" industries.

"Stabilization of employment" has an alluring sound, but the term and its background should be examined before workers pin their hopes on this or any other proposal.

The steel industry today, for instance, is operating on less than a 50 per cent production basis. Assuming that one-half of these employes are idle, of what value—from an unemployment solution standpoint—is a proposal to assure steady work to those now employed while the workless are ignored.

Idle workers, with their lack of consuming power that affects every activity of life, is the problem.

Business men talk of "stabilizing" employment while automatic machinery, scientific processes, chain stores, farm corporations and industrial mergers continuously displace labor.

If a factory employing 500 workers, for instance, discharges 20 per cent because of a new process, it is no solution to this unemployment situation to assure the remaining 400 that they will have continuous work.

This promise means nothing when the advance of chemistry, inventive genius and the trend toward mergers is self-evident.

The problem is to give the unemployed work and thus equip them with purchasing power.

Trade unionists demand that hours and wages keep abreast with the displacement of workers.

The machine, in various forms, swells the idle ranks, and menaces living conditions for employed. To assure steady work to the latter, while the forces that create unemployment are ignored, is no answer. It conceals the issue.

Business men must eventually face this fact. There will come a time when they can no longer profess ignorance of unemployment causes. Necessity will compel them to acknowledge that the machine is displacing workers, whose consuming power is destroyed.

As late as last October the Standard Trade and Securities, New York financial review, stated that wages declined that year from $44,607,000,000 to $35,754,000,000, a loss of $8,853,000,000, or 20 per cent.

During that time, government authorities insisted the unemployed totaled 2,800,000. They acknowledge that the number today is 5,000,000.

This means that now the wage decline is more than 20 per cent.

In view of these figures, business men can not continue to ignore the forces that create larger and larger unemployment.

LONG WORK SCHEDULE PREVAILS IN AMERICA

Washington, Feb. 14.—"The long work day and the long work night prevail in many parts of our country," said Miss Mary Anderson, director Federal Women's Bureau, in a press statement.

"Numerous workshops and mills still hold to the schedule of 10 hours a day and 11 hours a night," said Miss Anderson.

"Though some employers proved long ago that the shorter work day assures profits to the firm and greater health and happiness to employes, other employers persistently cling to the theory that the long day is more productive and, therefore, must be continued in order to bring higher dividends at the expense of the workers.

"The shorter work day is, to be sure, not the cure-all for economic ills that beset us, but would prove an efficacious remedy if universally resorted to.

"If we established throughout the world a reasonable working schedule and by reasonable I do not mean a nine or ten-hour day, but one of eight hours or less, and perhaps a five-day week as well, we would go a long way towards the goal of satisfactory settlement of unemployment difficulties."

LAWMAKER CALLS ON PEOPLE TO AWAKE TO CHANGING DAY

Washington, Feb. 14.—In a sensational speech in the House, Congressman Lozier of Missouri called on citizens to awake to industrial conditions.

"We are in the morning dawn of a long period of unemployment and not in the evening twilight," he said.

Excessive plant capacity and labor-displacing machinery, he asserted, "have brought the country's production facilities to the saturation point, and there must be a readjustment of the nation's industrial and agricultural life.

"Five or ten years from now some of you or your successors will be wrestling with the problem of unemployment. As a result of multiplying the number and productivity of our industrial plants we are going to produce each year more manufactured commodities than can be consumed in our domestic market for which we can find a market abroad. No one who seeks to accurately read the signs of the times, no one who studies present conditions, can logically reach the conclusion that we are passing out of the period of unemployment.

"There must be a complete readjustment of our industrial life and the restoration of a proper balance between the industrial classes on the one hand and the agricultural and consumer groups on the other hand before the problem of unemployment can be solved or an enduring prosperity ushered in.

"Some of you gleefully voted $160,000,000 rebate of income taxes. The beneficiaries of this rebate were largely men of stupendous fortunes. That was worse than a dole; it was a bounty to the rich and mighty.

"But when suffering hangs like a pall over the nation, we behold the amazing spectacle of government officials, Congressmen and Senators standing motionless, with their arms folded, arguing that our form of government is so ironclad, is so static, is so inelastic, so inflexible, so sordid, and so bloodless that we can not appropriate from the government funds to relieve the misery, hunger and suffering of our own people."

"RICH GROW RICHER," SAYS U. S. LAWMAKER

Washington, Feb. 14.—The claim that "the rich grow richer and the poor grow poorer" was proven by Congressman Rankin with Federal statistics submitted to the House Committee on Ways and Means in urging payment of the soldiers' adjusted compensation certificates.

"There has never been in all the times of written history such a concentration of wealth in the hands of the rich and powerful now represented by the great bondholders of America as in the last four or five years," said Mr. Rankin.

"In 1921 there were 75 people in the United States with an annual income of $1,000,000 and over. In 1928, four years later, there were 511 in that class. In 1927 there were 296. The number had gone from 75 to 296 in three years, and from 1927 to 1928 it went from 296 to 511.

"Take incomes of $1,000 and under. In 1924 there were 344,876 in that class. In 1928 there were 111,123. While those with incomes of a million dollars a year were growing in number from 75 in 1924 to 511 in 1928, increasing approximately sevenfold, those with incomes from a thousand dollars down fell from the number of 344,876 to 111,123."

Congressman Rankin presented other figures which show that in 1927 there were 187 corporations with incomes of $5,000,000 and over. In the following year there were 229 corporations in the same class.

"The number went from 187 to 229, while those under a thousand dollars fell from 70,299 to 68,466 for the same years," said Mr. Rankin.

WHY IS ALIEN GATE LEFT OPEN?

President Hoover asked Congress to appropriate $500,000 to arrest and deport aliens who are unlawfully in this country.

The gate through which most of these aliens enter, however, will remain open.

Europeans pay $200 to $400 for the privilege of signing as seamen on a ship bound for the United States. Chinamen pay up to $1,100. On arrival here they step ashore and are lost in the large cities. Between 40,000 and 50,000 are annually smuggled in by this method, which is profitable to the captain and ship owners.

The International Seamen's Union, for years, has attempted to secure a law which would authorize immigration officials to examine these "seamen" before they are permitted to leave the ship. These aliens if found to be not boni fida seamen, would be returned at the expense of the vessel.

The vessel would also be denied clearance papers if she attempted to sail with fewer seamen than she employed on arrival.

The King bill, now pending in Congress, has these provisions but it can not be moved.

SLICK INJUNCTION JUDGE

Judge Walter S. Gates of the Los Angeles Superior Court dismissed a policeman whom he cited for contempt of court for violating an injunction not to interfere with newsboys who were selling copies of the Los Angeles Citizen. The labor paper carried the story of a dispute between movie picture operators and a non-union theater.

Other local newspapers defended the labor paper and the judge was between two fires—how to appease the daily newspapers that feared an attack on free press and how to avoid antagonizing antiunion workers by protecting the labor paper's rights.

The court gave a beautiful exhibition of straddling. But labor "holds the bag."

He thundered, in his decision, for free press. But, said the honorable court, in this instance the newsboys were violating a municipal anti-picketing ordinance when they, in "a loud tone," called attention to the labor dispute. He ignored contempt of his order.

The claim is made that if a newsboy hereafter calls out "in a loud tone" of a scandal in influential circles that is recorded in the daily press, he, also, can be arrested under Judge Gates' decision.

The difference between this and the Citizen case, however, is that the labor newsboy is charged with violating an anti-picketing ordinance that prohibits any one from "inducing" prospective patrons to stay from a certain place.

The daily newspapers are alert to this distinction that has been drawn by a slick injunction judge.

DANVILLE MILL LABOR ARE IN SORE STRAITS

Danville, Va., Feb. 14.—Relief need for Danville textile workers has increased since their strike was called off. They are not being employed in considerable numbers.

Troops have been ordered home by Governor Pollard after Richmond newspapers asked why this additional expense to the State. General Waller promised that the textile workers would be fed with army rations, distributed through the Salvation Army. This offer has been withdrawn with the retirement of the troops.

General Waller recommended that Danville citizens and local welfare agencies relieve the needy. Thus far, however, the local union, through its contributions, has had the entire burden of this work. While the strike was on the union relieved destitution that was not traceable to the strike. The workers asked no questions, but gave of their store to hungry men, women and children. This work that should be done by welfare agencies is now overlooked by citizens.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 14.—A gloomy picture of conditions in the Danville mill district was painted by John Hopkins Hall, State Commissioner of Labor, on his return from that city.

He said the union's resources were exhausted and that Red Cross assistance in the county amounted to a bottle of milk and a can of tomatoes to each applicant. He said there is acute need for relief machinery and more supplies.

ANOTHER DISCOVERY

(From the Congressional Record.)

Senator Heflin (a dry)—The law allows the individual to manufacture non-intoxicating fruit juices for home consumption; to be served in the family. There is no inducement in that situation to make it in vast quantities, but we all know that by tampering with fruit juice it can be made into a very strong liquor.

Senator Tydings (a wet)—I did not know that. I thank the Senator for that contribution. (Laughter.)

Senator Heflin—Yes. I can tell the Senator that from my knowledge of chemistry (laughter). That if he will take the five gallons of wine and put a certain amount of sugar in it and close up the keg and leave it, as the Senator has suggested a number of times, for dear old nature to take her course in due time, he will have wine that has a kick in it.

Senator Tydings—I thank the Senator for that contribution to the civilization of the world.

ARMY IS DISTRIBUTING SALVAGED CLOTHING

Washington, Feb. 14.—Charitable organizations, to secure salvaged clothing from army depots for relief purposes, should apply through the Governors of the States concerned, according to General Van Hohn Moseley of the War Department.

"Army depots are being scoured for property of this general character that may have been accumulated in addition to that which is turned in in the routine manner, in order to supplement the measures already being taken to relieve distress," said General Moseley.

PRODUCING "BUNK" IS LEADING INDUSTRY

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 14.—"Where is our boasted intelligence when babies are dying for want of milk and the Department of Agriculture urges dairymen to kill off every tenth cow to cut down the nation's milk supply?" asked Wm. B. McEwen, editor of the Labor World, in a radio address over station WEBC.

"The farm board, through its chairman, Mr. Legge, advises Southern planters to grow less cotton. This is ridiculous, for, as a result, we have overproduction and to stabilize prices," said the labor editor.

"Right now, at this time millions of Americans cannot buy clothing and cotton fabrics. Producing bunk, it would seem, is at this time about the only prosperous industry in the United States. It is the one thing of which we have an overproduction.

"There would be no depression if our farm and industrial products had as good a home consuming power as has the product of the bunk factories.

"Overproduction? The trouble isn't there. It is in the field of distribution, where the need and want are, but where the ability to buy is not.

"As long as there is a hungry babe in America, and homeless, ill-fed, ill-clad and ill-shod men and women, there can be no such a paradox as overproduction.

"We can put our nation on the highway that leads to prosperity by increasing wages and insisting that wealth be equitably diffused."

STATE AID TO MOTHERS DENIED IN WISCONSIN

Madison, Wis., Feb. 14.—The State Senate voted to indefinitely postpone maternity aid to women employes.

The bill would extend the compensation law by financially aid to women employes six weeks before to eight weeks after childbirth, the total indemnity not to exceed 30 per cent of their salary.

Defeat of the bill was marked by bitter debate. Opponents attempted to gloss over the charge that women workers are paid a pauper wage. Senator Polakowski, author of the bill, declared that they were paid only 16 cents an hour.

"How can a man get a job under those conditions?" he asked.

Senator Blanchard suavely explained that the Stoughton tobacco plant wage was paid to old employes who were not as efficient as young workers.

CLIMATE NO REMEDY FOR WHITE PLAGUE

Washington, Feb. 14.—Medical men are abandoning the theory that certain climates will cure tuberculosis, declared the Federal Public Health Service.

"The home climate, even if it is the worst in the world, is best if proper medical care and care is available there but lacking elsewhere."

OIL COMBINE UPHELD

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 14.—Merging of the Standard Oil Company of New York and the Vacuum Oil Company was approved by three judges of the Federal Court of Appeals. The consolidation will capitalize at more than half a billion dollars. They were units of the old Standard Oil Combine dissolved by the Federal Supreme Court in 1911.

The judges said that "the intent and purpose of the merger is solely to meet the normal and natural business necessities of the two companies, brought about by the development of, and the changed business conditions in, the industry."

Government attorneys announce they will appeal to the Supreme Court. If the decision is upheld it will pave the way for a merger of other Standard Oil units.

RAILROAD MERGERS HELD NOT FEASIBLE

Washington, Feb. 14.—The chief counsel of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee made an adverse report on the railroad merger plan sponsored by President Hoover.

The counsel contends that "there exists no reasonable evidence that the weak road problem will be solved by a policy of consolidation" and that "there is no definite evidence that consolidations will result in substantial economies."

The committee's counsel says a complete grouping of railroads will not be carried out under a voluntary system because the strong, dividend-paying roads refuse to take over weak roads unless the transactions are commercially justifiable. A compulsory system, he holds, "cannot be put into effect because one carrier cannot be compelled to acquire another.

"In view of the position of the stronger roads as to the acquisition of unprofitable weak roads, and in the light of the history of the last ten years, there exists no reasonable ground for belief that the weak road problem will be solved by a policy of consolidation."

The counsel's report is along the general lines held by Senator Couzens, chairman of the Senate committee, who is the author of a resolution to halt railroad consolidations pending regulation of holding companies. The resolution has been held up in the House.

DEPRESSION WON'T END BY CUTTING WAGE RATES

Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 14.—Wage cuts is no solution for a depression that was caused by overcapitalization and overproduction in many lines in 1929, declared Ernest T. Weir, chairman National Steel Corporation.

"From early in 1924 on through 1928 a normal business condition prevailed," said Mr. Weir. "The general confidence that this period engendered, however, developed into a wild inflation in 1929. These are a few of the increases that we tried to absorb during this boom year: Increase in cotton crop, 12 per cent; finished cotton fabric, 14 per cent; pig iron production, 17 per cent; smelted copper, 19 per cent; pig tin, 20 per cent; automobile production, 33 per cent; household furniture, 18 per cent; new capital corporations, 95 per cent.

"It was a bad case of indigestion, which could only be cured by a severe system of dieting.

"There are, unfortunately, some employers who believe that wages should be reduced as soon as business gets poor."

BOSSES MUST ANSWER CHARGES OF PERJURY

Easton, Pa., Feb. 14.—The county grand jury finally indicted Calvin Hartzell, superintendent Kraemer Hosiery mills at Nazareth, and Arthur Schmidt on perjury charges.

The charges date back to November, 1929, when striking hosiery workers were enjoined on affidavits by Hartzell which he later admitted to be perjured. At the injunction hearings the mill superintendent admitted he swore to false statements, but insisted that Schmidt, his boss, ordered him to do so.

The indictment was issued despite the fact that the plaintiff came into court with unclean hands. An appeal to the State Supreme Court is pending.

When it was known that the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers intended to prosecute Hartzell and Schmidt, their affidavits disappeared from the county records.

DIVIDENDS GOING UP

New York, Feb. 14.—Domestic corporations in January paid $567,866,546 in cash dividends. This is a gain from $555,318,054 paid in December, according to the Standard Statistics Company.

Electric light, gas, telephone and telegraph public utilities led with $134,656,947. Banks paid $58,379,319 and railroads $51,982,833.

Stockholders in investment trusts, holding and finance companies were paid $30,113,803.

FRENCH JOBLESS GROW

Paris, Feb. 14.—Growing unemployment alarms the French government and authorities fear that this nation will become involved in the economic crisis so general in Europe.

During the past year it was the boast of France that there was no unemployment in this country.

UNEMPLOYMENT PLANS BE PROBED BY SENATE

Washington, Feb. 14.—The Senate Committee on Commerce made a favorable report on a bill that will establish a joint congressional committee to study unemployment insurance systems in use by private interests in the United States and by foreign governments.

The committee will make this study with the view to determining (1) the manner in which such systems were instituted and are now being operated, (2) the cost involved and the results achieved under each such system, (3) the relief, if any, afforded by each system during the economic depression of 1930, (4) the condition of each such system on July 1, 1931, with particular regard to the manner in which it survived the economic depression of 1930, and (5) the constitutional, Federal or private responsibility in connection with any such systems.

The committee shall report to the Senate on or before December 7, 1931, the results of such study, together with the recommendations for necessary legislation.

The committee may hold meetings, employ experts and, if necessary subpoena witnesses and papers. Expenses of the committee is limited to $50,000.

"DOUBLING UP" PLAN STOPS HOME BUILDING

New York, Feb. 14.—Families "doubling up" is a retarding influence on the recovery from the slump in residential building, writes L. Seth Schenck, vice president of the F. W. Dodge Corporation, in the current issue of "The Architectural Record."

New ownership of dwellings through mortgage foreclosure is another factor, says Schenck. These building ings were taken over at a low price and the new owners have an advantage over building construction. The new owners of these foreclosed properties can afford to lower rents. In solutions which are primarily of supply and demand are nearly normal, continued Mr. Schnitman, lower costs will stimulate construction.

"Such new building will, in all likelihood, make for lower rentals, which in turn will affect existing rentals in older structures."

MACHINERY DOES WORK; COAL MINERS ARE IDLE

Washington, Feb. 14.—Machinery has brought idleness to Montana miners, according to a letter to Senator Walsh of Wheeler of that State. The Montana workers urge government relief.

Mechanical devices in coal mines have reduced the number of men formerly employed about 48 per cent, or in other words of the 100 men formerly employed, only 52 are left to do the work, and the machines are displacing 48 men out of 100 who were formerly employed. As to output of coal, basing our figures on the tonnage output, the 52 men under this machine system will and are producing more than the 100 men working under the human-labor system.

SHORTER WORK WEEK WITHIN NEXT DECADE

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 14.—The shorter work week within the next decade was predicted by Dr. Joseph H. Willits in the report of the Pennsylvania in an address before the American Management Association. Dr. Willits is executive director of President's Emergency Committee on Employment.

The speaker said there will be an increase in the company "union" plan, which he called "employe representation." The growth of employe stock ownership and an increasing sense of "social responsibility" on the part of industry and management are also significant, according to Dr. Willits.

RELIEF TO WORKLESS URGED BY UNIONISTS

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 14.—The State should immediately appropriate $10,000,000 to the State Welfare Department to provide food, clothing and shelter to unemployment victims, declared the special unemployment conference called by the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor.

The legislature was called upon to protect home owners and their property from seizure, when, due to economic conditions, they are unable to meet tax payments or other charges. Thousands of working people, it was stated, have lost and others will continue to lose their homes unless protective action is taken.

"Conditions reported by these delegates from all sections of the State indicate unprecedented suffering and privation among hundreds of thousands of workers and their families," said John A. Phillips, president of the State Federation. "Unemployment is on the increase while the living standards of those who have jobs is lowered. This situation is fraught with danger and must be met without delay."

The conference was attended by representatives of trade unions and railroad brotherhoods. It is agreed that conditions in Pennsylvania are desperate and that drastic remedies are necessary to relieve actual starvation.

9,000,000 LISTED AS IDLE IN EUROPE

Washington, Feb. 14.—Unemployed in Europe was placed at 9,000,000 by H. C. MacLean, Paris representative of the International Chamber of Commerce, in a report to the American section of that organization.

The European situation, said Mr. MacLean, is complicated by impending strikes resulting from the resistance of workers to the installation of machinery which they believe will dispiace labor.

Wage reductions are carefully installed throughout the Continent. These are referred to as "slight, but downward revisions."

TEXAS WOULD PROHIBIT RAIL CONTROL OF BUSES

Austin, Texas, Feb. 14.—Prohibition of rail control of buses is proposed in a bill introduced in the State Legislature by Representative Terrell.

The preamble of the bill declares that such control creates an exclusive right upon railroad companies that is in violation of the Texas Constitution "and is detrimental to the public welfare and contrary to sound democratic principles of government."

FIGURES 7,000,000 JOBLESS IN NATION

New York, Feb. 14.—The nation's unemployed total 7,000,000, was the "conservative estimate" of State Industrial Commissioner Frances Perkins.

The State official based her opinion on figures furnished to the President's Emergency Employment Committee by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Miss Perkins called on Federal authorities to explain how they estimated these figures show 5,000,000 or less workers totally unemployed.

POST OFFICE SCANDAL OVER RENTAL LEASES

Washington, Feb. 14.—The Senate Committee that is investigating post office leases has uncovered other scandals in connection with the department's policy of leasing buildings at an annual rental that is more than cost, but one-third less than their assessed valuation.

This information is of especial interest to postal workers who are told that higher work standards is impossible, as the department is operating at a deficit and it must be placed on "a business basis."

The St. Paul lease was secured from Jacob Kulp under a non-cancellable agreement. Kulp receives $120,000 annual rental on a property assessed at $334,000. Kulp's attorney was the late James M. Good, former Secretary of War and former Congressman from Iowa.

There are 6,500 leased buildings used by the Post Office Department, the total annual rental paid for them being $16,541,000.

AUTO ACCIDENTS GROW

Washington, Feb. 14.—Deaths from auto accidents during the four-week period ending January 24, 1931, as reported to the Census Bureau by 81 large cities, increased 13 per cent over the same period in 1930. Miami, Persons who are 65 years of age are eligible unless possessing an income of $1 a day.

URGE OLD AGE PENSIONS

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 14.—Trade unionists of this State, the Ohio Council of Churches and the Fraternal Order of Eagles are supporting an old age pension bill before the legislature.

TWO HOSIERY MILLS MAKE DRASTIC CUTS

Philadelphia, Feb. 14.—The Windsor and Danita textile mills enforced wage cuts of 25 and 50 per cent and their non-union employes are on the streets.

Windsor employes have been accepting a high-sounding speed up system, under which the management sets rates. No worker knew what he earned during the week until he was handed his pay envelope. This firm forestalled a strike two years ago by enforcing the "yellow dog." These workers are joining the union.

Long hours and low wages has been the Danita mill policy. Rates were recently cut 50 per cent, and the victimized workers are in a mood to listen to unionists who tell them the advantage of organization.

TO PROBE FOOD PRICES

Washington, Feb. 14.—A Senate committee is holding hearings on the Capper bill, which provides for a probe on differences between the price of food and raw materials.

Wheat, flour and bread prices will be first investigated.

BUTLER'S COURT MARTIAL ENDED; DID MUSSOLINI FEAR LIMELIGHT?

Washington, Feb. 14.—Mussolini's fear of publicity is said to be behind the abandonment of court martial proceedings against Major General Butler of the Marine Corps.

This soldier has a bushel of medals that certify to his courage and administrative abilities in every part of the world. He is the most old-fashioned ideas on Americanism. He is not skilled in the art of diplomacy. At a private dinner in Philadelphia he said he was told that the Italian dictator ran over a little girl with his automobile and refused to stop for that reason that "affairs of state" are more important than one life.

Some one at the private dinner repeated the statement and Secretary of State Stimson sent an apology to Mussolini. Butler was placed under arrest and ordered court martialed.

There was a popular reaction in favor of the marine commander and the Departments of State and Navy found they had a problem on their hands. The court martial was dropped and Butler was reprimanded by Secretary of the Navy Adams.

It is now stated that Mussolini did not favor the court martial. The Italian Ambassador personally assured the Department of State that "this government" feared that the military trial would imperil friendly relations between the two countries because of possible "acriminous discussions."

Behind this solicitude of the Italian Ambassador for continuous friendly relations was the knowledge that Fascist methods and principles, while not directly related to the court martial would be discussed by the American people.

Bankers in this country who have made loans to Mussolini, together with prominent adherents of the Fascist ideal, picture the dictator as a world savior. They are unaware of his tyranny, of his destruction of the Italian parliament, free press, trade unionism, and all other forms of liberty.

The court martial might call attention to these facts, and the Fascist would be revealed as a despot. Diplomats realised this danger and they quietly rushed to cover.

So a brave soldier is censured because he talked among supposed friends and the people remain in ignorance of Mussolini and his thuggery.